

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/711,183

Examiner

Arthur Duran

Applicant(s)

SAMSON ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to BPAI Decision dated 9/28/2006. *All claims listed in amdt 11-19-04*
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

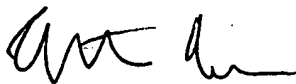
\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

This Notice of Allowance is in response to the Decision by the Board on September 28, 2006.

Claims 1-19 are allowed.

### ***Examiner's Statement of Reason's for Allowance***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

This Notice of Allowance is in response to the Decision by the Board September 28, 2006.

Prior art was found, Hammons, which disclosed many of the features of the Applicant's claims.

However, the Board found that Hammons did not render obvious all the Applicant's features of the independent claims. The BPAI found that Hammons discloses that user's activities are monitored and each action of the user is recorded and fed back to the computer for analysis. This disclosure, however, does not state that the information regarding the user activity is fed back to the user's profile. Hammons discloses that the user profile is utilized to target users for viewing advertisement (see col. 3, lines 9 to 16) and while stating that user activities are monitored and analyzed, Hammons does not state that the user activities are added to the user profile. In addition, although Hammons does mention methods involving bidding (col 1.

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lines 15 to 16) and that items up for auction may be shown to the user (col. 9, lines 43 to 54), Hammons does not disclose that bid activity is added to the user profile. In addition, Hammons does not describe generating an incentive based on the consumer profile or choosing one unsold item from an inventory based on the information in the consumer profile. The consumer profile in Hammons is utilized to better target users for advertisement not to generate a particular incentive or choose an unsold item.

Hence, the Board did not find that Hammons could support a 35 USC 103 rejection of the Appellant's claims.

Hence, the Board stated that the prior art cited does not disclose the combination of the specific features stated above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Arthur Duran whose telephone number is (571) 272-6718. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon- Fri, 8:00-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571) 272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Arthur Duran  
Primary Examiner  
12/11/2006